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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hisao YASUHARA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1745

Application No.: 09/865,468

Examiner: G. Cantelmo

Filed: May 29, 2001

Docket No.: 109375

For: METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR PRETREATMENT OF METAL SAMPLES

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the September 22, 2004 Office Action, and in view of the November 30, 2004 telephone interview, the following is submitted:

**Amendments to the Claims** as reflected in the listing of claims; and

**Remarks.**